

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AND CONSUMER SERVICES  
PLANT INDUSTRY DIVISION – PLANT CONSERVATION PROGRAM  
**GINSENG IN NORTH CAROLINA 2007**

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*NATIVE WILD GINSENG IS HARVESTED FROM EVERY MOUNTAIN COUNTY IN NORTH CAROLINA EVERY YEAR. Collectors dug ginseng from 31 counties of western North Carolina in 2007.*

WILD GINSENG HARVESTED, 2007:	12,863 pounds dry weight
WILD SIMULATED GINSENG HARVESTED, 2007:	485 pounds dry weight
PRICE PAID TO COLLECTORS, 2007:	\$850-\$950 per pound
TOTAL VALUE TO COLLECTORS:	~\$11,500,000
NUMBER OF COLLECTORS:	~ 4,000
NUMBER OF REGISTERED DEALERS:	51

County harvest figures are shown on the reverse.

The price of wild ginseng has continued to climb in recent years and hit its peak in 2007 at an average of \$875 per pound of dried roots. One pound of ginseng is about 300 roots.

*Nearly all ginseng harvested in North Carolina is sold to Oriental markets, where wild ginseng is a highly prized herb. Cultivated ginseng grown in beds brings a much lower price. Many North Carolina families plant ginseng in their woods to sell as wild. This category of ginseng is often called wild-simulated or woods grown ginseng.*

**GINSENG RULES IN NORTH CAROLINA:**

**THERE ARE NO GINSENG REGULATION CHANGES FOR THE 2008  
HARVEST SEASON**

- Closed season April 1-Sept. 1 for wild ginseng.
- Collectors must have written landowner permission. This applies to both public and private lands. No collection is allowed in state or national parks. Stealing ginseng from another's land is a felony.
- There is no state license for collectors.
- Ginseng dealers must register annually with NCDA&CS.
- All ginseng shipped out of state must be certified by NCDA&CS.
- Collected wild ginseng must be at least 5 years old (3-prong).
- Collectors must plant seeds on site.

**Rankings of NC counties by 2007-season wild ginseng harvest (in pounds dry weight)**

<b>County</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1996</b>
Jackson	1825	290	475	397	460	839	562	826	747	872	1017
Buncombe	1805	954	1171	255	743	1073	916	895	787	625	869
Haywood	1664	672	358	484	685	948	615	707	602	580	656
Madison	1126	723	1288	239	844	1035	865	896	721	717	768
Yancey	1008	552	683	224	568	676	568	536	493	376	685
Macon	1003	573	487	351	368	591	341	691	663	604	1002
Mitchell	767	471	208	222	334	456	420	387	276	278	418
Graham	606	340	225	144	274	391	372	517	453	223	514
McDowell	432	183	131	167	180	182	230	331	342	246	244
Cherokee	411	303	175	338	304	386	268	415	336	220	359
Clay	392	142	206	251	307	324	237	419	406	134	276
Watauga	367	248	147	147	240	262	167	156	249	217	364
Swain	305	176	159	251	252	340	273	451	355	271	408
Ashe	298	256	115	227	282	303	251	332	334	262	374
Avery	283	655	150	132	220	191	208	202	150	119	152
Henderson	216	55	60	77	45	211	92	171	129	86	161
Caldwell	66	37	32	86	103	108	78	47	114	105	149
Transylvania	53	49	31	44	60	77	68	73	88	92	103
Rutherford	27	25	16	12	29	47	3	70	10	31	67
Surry	27	7	18	29	27	65	22	62	88	47	49
Burke	23	15	49	28	56	57	50	26	16	18	12
Polk	23	1	48	57	46	61	15	88	28	27	41
Wilkes	23	20	26	44	50	77	70	52	192	137	317
Catawba	17	0	4	2	2	0	4	0	4	8	30
Gaston	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Alleghany	7	7	9	37	55	57	70	27	43	141	106
Alexander	4	3	1	5	10	5	4	7	17	9	9
Lincoln	4	2	0	5	0	1	0	2	5	6	0
Anson	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cleveland	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	8	11	4
Yadkin	2	1	1	0	1	7	2	2	0	2	1
Alamance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Caswell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Davidson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	10	1
Davie	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	1
Forsyth	0	1	0	4	0	6	1	0	0	0	13
Guilford	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Iredell	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	4	4	3	29
Mecklenburg	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Randolph	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rockingham	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	1
Stanly	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stokes	0	0	1	3	2	12	11	4	41	17	14
<b>State totals*</b>	<b>12799</b>	<b>6761</b>	<b>6274</b>	<b>4271</b>	<b>6548</b>	<b>8790</b>	<b>6788</b>	<b>8415</b>	<b>7710</b>	<b>6496</b>	<b>9182</b>

\*Totals include wild and wild-simulated ginseng harvested